



Newsletter

Editor : Kwun M Fong

Associate Editors : Yoshinosuke Fukuchi, J Patrick Barron, Yasutomi Yamanaka

Message from the President



Dear APSR members, friends and colleagues!

We hope that you had a really great start to 2017 and are refreshed and recharged. At the APSR, the team are gearing up to working hard to help our patients and communities to enjoy healthier lungs, in accordance with our Mission and Vision.

For myself, it is a great honour and privilege to step into the huge shoes of 2014-2016 President Michiaki Mishima, who has made an incredible contribution to the APSR. Please see the new APSR Initiative where we as members of the APSR are entitled to nominate and acknowledge our personal Mentors in professional life to ensure that they will be remembered in the rich history and tapestry that the APSR network has become - www.apspresp.org/members/honour-roll.php. This Honour Roll has been established to enable us all to publicly pay tribute and acknowledge our special mentors and teachers, in a permanent fashion. For Dr Mishima, I will

for ever be grateful for his always wise and kind advice, teaching and mentorship to enable me to learn how to contribute to the aims of the APSR, to help improve lung health in our region, to the best of my ability.

We hope too that everyone has recovered from the hard work in organising and attending the memorable 2016 APSR Congress in beautiful Bangkok. A great success, thanks to the delegates, APSR members, the Local and Central Congress Committees, Assembly troika leaders, APSR committees, speakers and presenters.

I am also very grateful to have the chance to work with all the office bearers and officials of the APSR, the numbers of which have been expanded to encourage as many people as possible to share their wisdom and expertise to advance the APSR mission of better lung health for the people in the Asia-Pacific region. We thank them all for volunteering their time and wonderful skills.

In 2017, we anticipate the APSR growing and expanding its activities to achieve our objectives; promoting and coordinating activities in the field of respiratory medicine, fostering research activities in the field of respiratory medicine, organizing and coordinating meetings, producing regular publications, including this Newsletter, the APSR *Respiratory Updates*, *Respirology*, and *Respirology Case Reports*. (These are now under the guidance of our new Editorial team, progressing even beyond the important foundational achievements during Peter Eastwood's productive tenure. Thank you Peter.)

The team also looks forward to APSR 2017 on 23–26 November which will be held in Sydney, Australia, which of course is home country to me. We are fortunate to have special people leading this, guided by co-convenors Dr Jane Bourke and Dr Matthew Peters. We also value the enduring and vital support of the TSANZ (Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand), led by its president Dr Peter Gibson, and CEO Ms Tanya Buchanan. As with all our *en bloc* members, the APSR is so grateful for the mutual friendship and collegiality which has allowed the APSR to grow since its inception, and we count on each other to continue with the next stage of APSR development and maturity.

Indeed such productive collaborations remind us of our mutual benefits and fellowship, especially as much of the initial establishment of the APSR was undertaken by visionary colleagues in the TSANZ and JRS. The late Dr Michiyoshi Harasawa conceived the idea of the APSR in 1982 at the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society. He recognised that there was no world-wide organization devoted only to the subject of respirology. The American Thoracic Society and Societas Europaea Pneumologica (now the European Respiratory Society) were both very active in North America and Europe respectively. Many specialists in the Asia-Pacific region had talked about the formation of a similar organization for their area. Dr Harasawa subsequently formed an international steering committee to establish the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology and became its founding president in 1986. For us "oldies", history is very poignant and important, and we hope our "youngies" who may not know our origins so well, will help us through their fresh eyes and energy to maintain our rich heritage, culture and strong friendships in this fast changing and challenging globalised world.

We are developing new initiatives to benefit our members and communities, including the concept of a charitable Foundation to allow people to donate and contribute to the training and research in lung diseases in the next generation of investigators. We are developing new educational vehicles to better share information and knowledge, and will continue to reach out to broaden our membership and learn from the very many people in our region.

We look forward to new ideas and innovations from our Assemblies, and closer interaction with the ATS and ERS Assemblies. We also value our strong relationships with our Sister Societies; indeed the ATS is supporting our aim of encouraging the next generation of respiratory scientific researchers with the provision of a significant \$2,000 Award to a young APSR member, as well as travel grants to encourage attendance to the APSR-ISRDL satellite meeting at the ATS International Conference in Washington. Please see apsresp.org/archive/ats-2017.html for further information. In this regard, the APSR is working with FIRS on a new FIRS World Report on lung health and we will keep you updated.

Our website is being reformed to respond to the needs of our members, and please do give feedback on how we can continue to improve the website and the APSR. The webmaster is very ably supported by our efficient Secretariat team, led by Yasutomi Yamanaka, Suga Konno, Rina Kishigami and Reiko Matsui. Soon you should see how the digital age will be able to help us at the APSR reach out to our members, and provide useful, educational and professional resources.

We look forward to hearing your ideas, feedback and suggestions on how to improve the APSR and lung health in the Asia-Pacific region. Please communicate with us and together, we can work hard to meet new challenges and issues.

Thanks again for your help.

お力添えに感謝申し上げます。

Salamat uli sa iyong tulong.

도와주셔서 다시한번 감사드립니다

Жардамга Рахмат

再次感謝您的幫忙

Terima kasih sekali lagi atas bantuan anda

Obe udawwata nawathath godak sthuthiy

Một lần nữa cảm ơn sự giúp đỡ của bạn

Terima kasih sekali lagi atas bantuannya

Kwun Fong

Message from Editor-in-Chief of *Respirology*

The *Respirology* 2016 Annual Report was presented at the recent 2016 APSR Congress in Bangkok, where the editorship of *Respirology* was handed over from Peter Eastwood to us as co-Editors-in-Chief. To read about Peter's time with the journal and his achievements, please read his outgoing Editorial published in the November 2016 issue

of *Respirology*: Eastwood, P. (2016) Message from the outgoing Editor-in-Chief. *Respirology*, 21: 1338–1339. doi:10.1111/resp.12907.

Since the Impact Factor for *Respirology* exceeded the '3' threshold in July 2014, and remained over 3 (currently 3.078), the numbers of submitted manuscripts have significantly increased. This number exceeded 1,000 last year and is expected to be around the 900-1,000 mark again this year. The majority of submissions continue to originate from the Asia-Pacific region (64%) followed by Europe (17%) and North America (8%). The majority of published papers also originated from the Asia-Pacific region (56%), again followed by Europe (23%) and North America (12%). Due to an efficient Editorial Office the increased workload has not negatively affected turnaround time. We are very grateful to the highly professional and dedicated Editorial Team for their continued hard work and for helping the smooth transition into our new roles. The journal relies heavily on our Editorial Board and during 2016 we welcomed several new Associate Editors to help with the increased reviewing load: Frits Franssen (Netherlands), Jeffrey Horowitz (USA) and Lonny Yarmus (USA). Editorial Board members David Barnes (Australia) and Cynthia Chee (Singapore) also joined the team of Associate Editors while Chi Chiu Leung (Hong Kong) was promoted to Deputy Editor. We also welcomed three new Editorial Board members – Sanjay Chotirmall (Singapore), Ae Young Kang (Korea) and Mark Lavercombe (Australia). Mark has taken on the responsibility of selecting educational papers for inclusion on the APSR website. We have also three new biostatisticians – Denise Anderson, Julia Marsh and Luke Prendergast (all Australia). A few people also left the team this year and we would like to thank Associate Editors O Jung Kwon and Shu Hashimoto, and biostatisticians Michael Abramson and Sarra Jamieson for their valuable contributions to the journal during their time on the Board.

This year saw the launch of the *Respirology* App for Android and iOS. Users can download the App for free from Google Play (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.wiley.jas.resp&hl=en>) and the Apple iTunes Store (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/respirology/id1057566854?mt=8>). Current subscribers can use their personal or institutional login to access journal content.

Respirology published eight issues in 2016 containing 116 original articles, 30 editorials, 30 invited reviews (embedded in the review series on 'Lung Cancer Practice, Implementing Evidence from Around the World', 'Idiopathic Interstitial Pneumonia', 'Unravelling the Many Faces of COPD to Optimise its Care and Outcomes' and 'Modern Statistical Methods in Respiratory Medicine'), three year-in-review papers, 15 unsolicited or invited reviews and systematic

reviews and meta-analyses, one clinical practice guideline, one position paper, nine scientific letters and 12 correspondences. *Respirology* also published three supplements including the Abstracts of the 2016 Airway Vista Meeting (Seoul, Korea), the Thoracic Society of Australia & New Zealand and the Australian & New Zealand Society of Respiratory Science 2016 Annual Scientific Meetings (Perth, Australia) and the 21st Congress of the APSR (Bangkok, Thailand).

Access to *Respirology* and article downloads have again increased approaching 350,000 downloads of full text. *Respirology* also monitors alternative metrics of impact such as Altmetrics which is now available for each published article.

In the last year, *Respirology* expanded its video content with many authors accepting the opportunity to promote their published work by way of a video abstract posted on the journal's YouTube channel. Our YouTube channel features 28 videos and has received over 4,700 views.

As we start our editorship, we have outlined our goals and aims for the journal in our debut Editorial published in the latest issue of *Respirology*: Bardin, P. and Reynolds, P. (2016) *Respirology and the Asia-Pacific Century*. *Respirology*, 22: 7–8. doi: 10.1111/resp.12953.

Finally, we would like to thank the Editorial Office team, the staff at Wiley and the APSR Secretariat for their hard work and assistance. The journal continues to receive strong support from the APSR Executive Committee, for which we are very grateful. We are excited to continue forward and to keep developing *Respirology*.

Philip Bardin
Paul Reynolds

Message from Editor-in-Chief of *Respirology Case Reports*

This year, *Respirology Case Reports* increased its number of issues from four to six per year, in order to increase its online presence and respond to the increase in papers published (57 case reports published in 2016 compared to 48 in 2015). We have also recently launched the publication of new article types; namely case series, images and videos, in addition to case reports.

Respirology Case Reports has received 78 submissions from 18 different countries, with the top countries of origin being Japan (51%), Australia (14%), and China (8%). Approximately 80% of the manuscripts are accepted for publication. On average, the authors are informed of a first decision within 20 days of submission.

According to Wiley's 2015 Annual Report, the number of full text downloads for *Respirology Case Reports* further increased this year reaching almost 50,000. Again 25% of the readership came from the USA. The top ten downloaded case

reports from Wiley Online library are available on the journal's website.

The journal has electronic table of content (eTOC) alerts. It continues to be widely marketed by Wiley and we have continued to advertise the journal on the *Respirology* and APSR websites, as well as those of other societies. There have been advertisements in the WABIP and Wiley's Respiratory Medicine Newsletters and flyers at the APSR, ATS and ERS conferences. We send a message on Twitter each time a case report is published and have noticed that some case reports have attracted a lot of comments and activity on this social media.

We said farewell to two Editorial Board members who had come to the end of their terms this year, Dr John Harvey and Dr Annette McWilliams, and welcomed two new members, Dr James Ho and Dr Wai Cho Yu. We are indebted to our Editorial Board members for their work in reviewing all the case reports submitted to the journal and would like to thank each one of them for their expert advice and support, and for championing the journal. We also acknowledge our Deputy Editors, Dr Philip Bardin, Dr Peter Eastwood and Dr Paul Reynolds, who provide guidance and support to the journal. There is a hardworking team behind *Respirology Case Reports* who need to be acknowledged and thanked including Dr Lieve Bultynck, Managing Editor, Dr Christel Norman Deputy Managing Editor and the rest of the Editorial Office staff, as well as the team at Wiley-Blackwell and the APSR Secretariat.

Christopher Lai

The Editorial Office of *Respirology / Respirology Case Reports* has relocated.
New contact details:

Respirology
Institute for Respiratory Health
Ground Floor, E Block
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Hospital Ave
Nedlands WA 6009
Australia
Telephone: +61 8 6151 0807
Email Respirology: respirology@resphealth.uwa.edu.au
Email Respirology Case Reports:
respcasereports@resphealth.uwa.edu.au

Message from the APSR Education Committee

The APSR Education Committee has taken on a new look in 2016 with Dr Azuma Arata, Dr Shu Hashimoto, Dr Kazuhisa Takahashi staying on, while we welcomed new members, Dr Aliina Altymysheva, Dr Sita Andarini, Dr Fumihiko Asano, Dr Helmy Haja Mydin, Dr Diah Handayani, Dr Meng-chih Lin, Dr Guy Marks, Dr Henry Marshall, Dr Patrick Gerald Moral, Dr Ngo-quy Cho, Dr Manil Peiris and Dr Chin-

kook Rhee, who have joined us. They were all nominated by their respective APSR en bloc membership societies to join this committee.

I am sure it was really timely to have this new committee, to serve the APSR in the best possible way.

Educational Seminar of APSR (ESAP)

The Philippines College of Chest Physicians (PCCP) successfully held an ESAP on 'Learning Advances, Views & Analyses in Lung Diseases', on 29-30 September 2016 in Legazpi City, Albay, Philippines. You can see their detailed report at www.aprsp.org/education/esap/esap-201609-philippines.html

We are looking forward to receiving further applications for hosting ESAPs in 2017.

APSR Respiratory Updates

We delivered another year of *APSR Respiratory Updates* in 2016 and we appreciate the contributions from experts and researchers from different regions. These new and archival issues are all available on the APSR website: www.aprsp.org/publications/resp-updates.html.

We continue to invite authors to share their views on update literature in their expert areas.

Future Plans:

Application for ESAPs in 2017 is open and APSR members and potential hosts for ESAPs are urged to apply early. The committee will also continue working on the APSR Teaching Library which will be available on the APSR website for members' access very soon.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the APSR Education Committee members, as well as the APSR Executive Committee members and Councillors, for their continued support. We are looking forward to your continued participation in future APSR education activities.

David CL Lam

Message from the APSR Membership Committee

Happy holidays. Happy New Year and we wish you prosperity for the coming year. We thank all APSR members for supporting the APSR Congress held in Bangkok.

As the Asia-Pacific region comprises more than half of the world's population, this represents a very significant challenge for the improvement of world health. In this regard the APSR invites respiratory societies in the Asia-Pacific region to join the APSR and become en-bloc members, to strengthen the networking, collaboration and working together towards better understanding in regional respiratory problems, and to overcome them. Membership also includes free access of the APSR's journal of *Respirology*, education materials, and other education programmes such as ESAP.

We look forward to stronger collaboration with respiratory societies in the Asia-Pacific region.

Faisal Yunus

Message from new co-chairs – APSR Industry Taskforce

The relationship between industry and physicians, professional medical societies, universities and other medical institutions is now governed by ethical and professional standards and these are being scrutinized by government agencies, the media and the public. Industry and the APSR are both working to improve the health of respiratory patients in the Asia-Pacific region and to achieve the highest level of professional education for the APSR members. This is best done by working in a partnership which is transparent and meets the high ethical standards of both parties. In order to foster a dialogue between industry and the APSR, focusing on ways by which a collaboration between the parties can best achieve these stated aims, the APSR Industry Taskforce has been formed and met for the first time on the occasion of the recent APSR Congress in Bangkok.

The first meeting of the Taskforce was well attended by 17 members of industry, members of the APSR Executive Committee including the president, and representatives of the APSR Congress Committees for the Bangkok Congress and the next two Congresses in Australia (2017) and Taiwan (2018). Dr LN Hooi and Dr N Berend were confirmed as the inaugural co-chairs of the Taskforce.

There followed a discussion about sponsorship of the Congresses and various activities and initiatives planned by the APSR including fellowships for researchers, clinicians and scientists, a virtual Teaching Library of common cases, 'Best of Congress' resources together with other educational materials and workshops. All agreed to the fundamental principle of freedom from commercial bias and influence, and absolute transparency.

The Taskforce will further discuss the development of a Charter and the best way forward to achieve its goals.

Norbert Berend
Lai Ngho Hooi

Message from new Chair APSR Foundation (APSRF)

Dear colleagues

During the last APSR meeting in Bangkok, the APSR Executive Committee approved the setting up of an APSR foundation. This will be a non-profit foundation which serves to raise funds from donations and bequests for the activities of the APSR. An interim steering committee has been set up to look into the details. The

goal is to put forward a proposal of the specific operational details by the next APSR congress in 2017 Australia. If any of you have any good ideas, please feel free to email me at drphilipeng@singnet.com.sg

Philip Eng

Message from the 21st Congress President

The following message is on behalf of the Thoracic Society of Thailand under Royal Patronage.

The 21st Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respiriology (APSR2016) in Bangkok has drawn to a close. We were privileged to host 2,300 participants from 50 countries, of whom a number were doctors of the younger generation. The great contribution by more than 50 world-renowned speakers and the excellent support from industrial sectors further attributed to the success of the congress. I dare not say the APSR2016 was one of the best-managed and qualified conferences, but at least I personally observed some occurrences that left me with good memories. There was some turmoil during the first congress day due to the overflow of unexpected non-preregistered participants attending each of the ten workshops, and on the last congress day insufficient lunch boxes were available during the industrial-sponsored lunch symposium, due to excessive number of attendees at the 400-seat meeting room. It is well known that many factors contribute to the success of any congress; including the congress venue, educational content, scientific topics and management logistics. The Asia-Pacific region consists of countries with populations of different languages and levels of education. Most physicians in this region spend the majority of their time in clinical practice in order to raise the standards of patient care. My lesson learned from the APSR2016 is that the best way to keep participants attending most of the scientific sessions through to the last congress day is to link all the most up-to-date knowledge and information to real clinical practice. By this way, I believe APSR congresses will grow quickly in the near future.

Finally I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Central Congress Committee for all their valuable advice and, importantly, for providing the opportunity for the Thoracic Society of Thailand under Royal Patronage to host the APSR2016.

Sumalee Kiatboonsri

The following awards were presented during the Congress.

APSR Medal

Chunxue Bai

APSR Woolcock Research Award

Makoto Hoshino

APSR Harasawa Research Award

YC Gary Lee

Fukuchi Award for the Best Original Paper in Respirology

Chih-Ying Ou

APSR Travel Award

Devi Jyoti Dash

Takeo Inoue

Hiroshi Kida

Wing Hung Lau

Lian Liu

Peng Luo

Annalee Manalo

Fatemeh Moheimani

Akio Mori

Jun-Pyo Myong

Tsukasa Ohnishi

Hiroshi Ohnishi

Hyeong Won Seo

Hironobu Tsubouchi

Ralph Elvi Villalobos

Yingxin Wu

Etsuro Yamaguchi

Akira Yoshikawa

APSR-ATS Young Investigator Award

Manuel Sanchez-de-la-Torre

Laura C. Feemster

APSR-ERS Young Investigator Award

Gene Philip Louie Ambrocio

Fariz Nurwidya

TSANZ Young Investigator Award

Kristin V Carson

ERS Handbook Award

Naplika Kongpolprom

Kozo Kuribayashi

Ryosuke Machida

Kojin Murakami

Miyuki Munechika

Chau Ngo Quy

Akihito Ono

Chin Kook Rhee

Catherine Saxon

Yuanlin Song

Emily Stone

Takuto Sueyasu

Miki Yamamoto

Shuhei Yamamoto

Yuki Yoshimatsu

Akane Kato

Respiratory Training Programme from
Chulalongkorn University

Respiratory Training Programme from Siriraj
Hospital

Respiratory Training Programme from
Ramathibodhi Hospital

Respiratory Training Programme from King
Mongkut Institute

Respiratory Training Programme from
Khonkaen University

Respiratory Training Programme from Songkla
University

Respiratory Training Programme from Chiang
Mai University

Respiratory Training Programme from

Thammasat University
The Library of the Thoracic Society of the
Thailand under Royal Patronage

Message from the 22nd Congress President

Dear fellow APSR members,

Plans are proceeding rapidly for the next APSR Congress to be organised by the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand that will be held in Sydney from 23-26 November. The venue is the spectacular new International Convention Centre (ICC Sydney). The Congress theme is “Lung Health in a Changing World”. In addition to keynote lectures, original workshops are planned for both clinicians and researchers. The organising committee represents a range of professional disciplines – all focussed on the better understanding of lung disease resulting in better lung health for all our communities.



ICC Sydney can be easily accessed via public transport and features seamless pedestrian access and walkways plus a connective public domain. The venue is in the dynamic and activate Darling Harbour precinct full of restaurants and public spaces. It is only a moment's walk to the central business district (CBD), the recently-completed Barangaroo foreshore park, local universities, Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Sydney Opera House. There are endless recreational opportunities in and around Sydney as well as in other parts of Australia. The weather in Sydney in November typically features warm days and pleasant evenings.



The Congress is of course about Medicine and Science. We want to meet the educational needs of as many APSR members as possible. Now is an important time for APSR members to be active within their assemblies as content for the meeting is developed.

Jane Bourke
Matthew Peters



Report from APSR Congress travel award winners

Award winners from the ATS

It was an honour and privilege to be selected as a recipient of the ATS Young Investigator Award at the APSR congress in Bangkok (Thailand).

I was privileged to be able to present my research. The APSR congress creates a venue for young researchers like me, to pursue our interests and share with the scientific community. I had the opportunity to present the scientific advances of my research group to improve personalized medicine in sleep apnea. During the scientific session I got feedback from other researchers, being always positive and challenging with insightful questions. Moreover, these interactions were strengthened by the social events organized by the APSR, in particular the Gala Dinner.

I enjoyed the city and also my first visit to Thailand. The hosting city, Bangkok, is a beautiful and a friendly place with plenty of interesting people of different cultures.

I am so thankful to the ATS and APSR for giving me such for such an unforgettable experience.



Dr Marc Moss(left)
and Dr Manuel
Sánchez-de-la-Torre
(right)

Manuel Sánchez-de-la-Torre

Award winner from the ERS

It is with privilege and honour that I was chosen to be among the Young Investigator Awardees from the European Respiratory Society at the 21st Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Respirology held in Bangkok, Thailand. It was a great experience to be able to share my research on anxiety and depression in tuberculosis patients, since this disease is very relevant to



my country and to the other developing countries in the region. During the session, it was enlightening to discuss the intricacies of TB management in a country with a high burden of disease and its psychiatric aspect. I appreciated all the questions and

recommendations from the audience, and it was a good learning venue for young researchers like me, to pursue their interests and spark awareness in the field of research where there are identified gaps in the scientific community. I am very thankful to the ERS, APSR and the organizing committee for this learning opportunity.



Dr Jørgen Vestbo(left) and Dr Gene Philip Louie Ambrocio (right)



Gene Philip Louie Ambrocio



I would like to use this opportunity to express our deep gratitude to the European Respiratory Society (ERS), the APSR, and the APSR 2016 organizing committee for the APSR-ERS

Young Investigator Award conferred upon me at the 21st Congress of the APSR. It was a truly amazing experience to be granted this international award. I could not have stood at the Congress without the support of Dr Kazuhisa Takahashi and Dr Fumiyuki Takahashi of Juntendo University. My deep appreciation also goes to my supervisors and teachers, Dr Faisal Yunus, Dr Wiwien Heru Wiyono, Dr Menaldi Rasmin, Dr Sita Andarini, Dr Budhi Antariksa, Dr Elisna Syahrudin and Dr Prasenoahadi, who gave their tremendous support during my residency at the Universitas Indonesia.

Being able to attend the prestigious 21st Congress of APSR was a privilege for me and other respiratory residents in the Asia-Pacific region. The Opening Ceremony was amazing and the Welcoming Reception was wonderful. It allowed us to meet great leaders of respiratory medicine

from around the globe; persons who have shaped our respiratory fields. I feel that the Congress was a world-stage scientific platform that provided a golden opportunity for the respiratory researcher to showcase their important findings. The APSR Congress provided important new findings of the basic science of respiratory medicine. I received important feedback during my presentation about the transcription factor that regulates the malignant behaviour in lung cancer cells. At the end of the Young Investigator Award session, the future direction of our study became more clear and promising. The atmosphere was perfect to build a powerful and strong research design.

Bangkok was a truly wonderful city and it was very easy to find halal food. The citizens were kind and helpful. The Queen Sirikit National Convention Center (QSNCC) was amazing with all the perfect traditional and modern art perfectly combined. I look forward to being part of future APSR congresses.



Dr Sumalee Kiatboonsri(left) and Dr Fariz Nurwidya (right)



Fariz Nurwidya

Message from a new APSR member – why I joined

The APSR is one of the largest non-profit organizations of respiratory physicians in the world, and probably the largest in the Asia-Pacific region. Its contribution to research and development in the field of pulmonology is enormous. It is also associated with promoting clinical knowledge and helps in the career path of a young physician through its various activities including conferences and workshops. Its journal *Respirology* is of international standard.

I came to know about this organization and journal when preparing for my thesis for the

MD exam about seven years ago. Recently I have become a member of this prestigious organization and have already started getting advantages from it. The APSR *Respiratory Updates* and *Respirology* help me a lot. I missed this year's conference, but hopefully will attend the next one in Sydney in 2017.

I am proud to be a member of the APSR!

Tanwir Iqbal Ibn Ahamed, Indonesia

Message from a new FAPSR – why I applied

It is my greatest pleasure to write a message regarding the reason for applying to be a fellow of the APSR. Respiratory medicine is one of the intriguing and growing fields in medicine, ranging from basic respiratory physiology to advanced care, and cutting edge research. There are unparalleled respiratory diseases among the Asia-Pacific region ranging from tropical infection such as malaria, drug-resistant tuberculosis, unique obstructive airway disease such as pan bronchiolitis, to special characteristic of lung cancer in bronchioloalveolar carcinoma. Even common diseases observed in up to 20% of the world's population such as obstructive sleep apnea, are noted to be a particularly unique trait among Asians. Collaboration among the Asia-Pacific countries is essential to succeed in combating these respiratory conditions in our region by advancing treatment through expanding education and enhancing future research with the ultimate goal being the best care for our patients.

As a faculty member, clinician and researcher, I believe the APSR can provide me with a great ability to connect with people in the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide who have the same interest in the field. I have learned first-hand as I was a Co-Chair of the Scientific Committee for the APSR 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand. During the congress, I had a great experience to meet with many world-renowned experts in various fields of respiratory medicine to share experience and to learn from their great expertise. A successful congress, with over 2,300 participants from Asia-Pacific countries as well as around the world, would not have been possible without the great APSR Central Congress Committee and well-structured organization of the APSR.

Lastly, I would like to encourage all of you to become Fellows of the APSR in order to connect, contribute, and collaborate for the great future of respiratory medicine in our region and worldwide.

Naricha Chirakalwasan, Thailand

Forthcoming Meetings

2017

Joint PCCP 36th Annual Chest Convention and 4th ASEAN Sleep Congress

7-10 March

Manila, Philippines

Email: secretariat@philchest.org

Website: www.sleepbreathemanila2017.org

TSANZSRS Annual Scientific Meeting

24-28 March

Canberra, Australia

Email: tsanzsrs@tcc.co.nz

Website: www.tsanzsrs2017.com/

123rd Annual Conference of the KATRD

14-15 April

Busan, Korea

Email: katrd@lungkorea.org

Website: www.lungkorea.org

57th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory Society

21-23 April

Tokyo, Japan

Email: 57jrs@jrs.or.jp

Website: www.jrs.or.jp/jrs57/

ATS 2017 International Conference

19-24 May

Washington, D.C., USA

Website: conference.thoracic.org/

Respire 9: 2017 Annual Academic Sessions of the Sri-Lanka College of Pulmonologists

6-8 July

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Malaysian Thoracic Society Congress 2017

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

20 July: Congress workshops

21-23 July: Main Congress

Email: m.thoracicsociety@gmail.com,

secretariat@mts.org.my

Website: www.mts.org.my

ERS 2017 International Congress

9-13 September

Milan, Italy

Website: erscongress.org/

XV National Congress of Indonesian Society of Respirology 2017 (KONAS XV PDPI 2017)

20-23 September

North Sumatera, Indonesia

E-mail: konasdpi2017@gmail.com

Website: www.konaspdpi2017.com

PCCP 20th Midyear Convention

5-7 October

Cebu City, Philippines

Email: secretariat@philchest.org

Website: www.philchest.org

124th Annual Conference of KATRD

9-10 November

Seoul, Korea

Email: katrd@lungkorea.org
Website: www.lungkorea.org

22nd Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of
Respirology
23-26 November
Sydney, Australia
Email: apsr@tcc.co.nz
Website: www.apsr2017.com/



2018

58th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory
Society
27-29 April
Osaka, Japan

23rd Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of
Respirology
29 November-2 December
Taipei, Taiwan



2019

59th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Respiratory
Society
26-28 April
Tokyo, Japan

24th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of
Respirology
Hanoi, Vietnam



Organization of the APSR

Officers of the APSR

President: Kwun M Fong

Immediate-Past President: Michiaki Mishima

Secretary General: Roslina Manap

Treasurer: Yoichi Nakanishi

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Chairpersons of the Permanent Committees
Steering Committee: Kwun M Fong (Chairperson),
Strategic Planning Committee: Mary Sau-Man Ip (Chairperson)
Research Committee: Chunxue Bai (Chairperson)
Education Committee: David CL Lam (Chairperson)
Nomination Committee: Yoshinosuke Fukuchi (Chairperson)
Finance Committee: Yoichi Nakanishi (Chairperson)
Membership Committee: Faisal Yunus (Chairperson)
Central Congress Committee: Philip Eng (Chairperson)

Presidents of the Congresses:

1st Congress	Tokyo	1988	Michiyoshi Harasawa
2nd Congress	Bali	1990	Hood Alsagaff
3rd Congress	Singapore	1993	Wan-Cheng Tan
4th Congress	Beijing	1996	Wei-Ci Luo
5th Congress	Sydney	1998	J. Paul Seale
6th Congress	Florence	2000	Ann J. Woolcock
7th Congress	Taiwan	2002	Kwen-Tay Luh
8th Congress	Selangor	2003	Chong-Kin Liam
9th Congress	Hong Kong	2004	Wah Kit Lam
10th Congress	Guangzhou	2005	Nan Shan Zhong
11th Congress	Kyoto	2006	Yoshinosuke Fukuchi
12th Congress	Gold Coast	2007	Christine Jenkins
13th Congress	Bangkok	2008	Arth Nana
14th Congress	Seoul	2009	YoungSoo Shim
15th Congress	Manila	2010	Teresita de Guia
16th Congress	Shanghai	2011	Chunxue Bai
17th Congress	Hong Kong	2012	David Hui
18th Congress	Yokohama	2013	Toshihiro Nukiwa
19th Congress	Bali	2014	Faisal Yunus
20th Congress	Kuala Lumpur	2015	Roslina Abdul Manap
21st Congress	Bangkok	2016	Sumalee Kiatboonsri
22nd Congress	Sydney	2017	Jane Bourke, Mathew Peters
23rd Congress	Taipei	2018	Chong-Jen Yu
24th Congress	Hanoi	2019	Ngo Quy Chau

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